

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 L-01 NSCE-00 NSC-05  
INR-05 CIAE-00 SP-02 TRSE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /037 W  
-----122149Z 074348 /62

O 121840Z MAY 77 ZFF-1  
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2764  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
CNO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BRIDGETOWN 1056

LIMDIS

SEC FOR ISA/FMRA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, BB

SUBJ: RENEWAL OF US MILITARY FACILITY ON BARBADOS

REF: (A) CO NAVFAC BARBADOS 102325Z MAY 77, (B) STATE 103589

1. ON BASIS OF PRE-NEGOTIATION CONSULTATIONS WITH EMBASSY AND CO NAVFAC WHO RECENTLY BRIEFED LEADING MEMBERS OF THE BARBADIAN NEGOTIATING TEAM (REFTEL (A)), IT APPEARS HIGHLY LIKELY THAT FIRST ISSUE WE WILL FACE IS CLAIM FOR RETRO-ACTIVE PAYMENT OF "CONTRIBUTION" FOR AIRPORT MAINTENANCE AND OPERATING COSTS UNDER ARTICLE VII OF 1961 AGREEMENT. THIS CLAIM HAS A POLITICAL BACKGROUND, IN THAT BLP GOVERNMENT WHICH CAME TO POWER LAST SEPTEMBER, IS HOPEFUL IT CAN MAKE POLITICAL CAPITAL FROM DEMONSTRATION OF ITS SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF CLAIM WHICH PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT HAD NEGLECTED.

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2. WE INTEND TO RESIST RECOGNIZING THIS CLAIM. HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC, IN VIEW OF POTENTIAL POLITICAL ADVANTAGE TO PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND THE MERITS OF THE CASE, THAT WE CAN AVOID ADMITTING SOME OBLIGATION. AT THIS TIME WE ARE UNABLE FIRMLY TO QUANTIFY THAT OBLIGATION. ON BASIS OF STRAIGHT COMMERCIAL LANDING FEES THE NUMBER OF PAST FLIGHTS (REF B)) WOULD

SUGGEST A TOTAL FIGURE OF \$200,000 FOR THE PAST 16 YEARS.

3. IF NECESSARY TO REACH AGREEMENT, REQUEST AUTHORITY (A) TO ACKNOWLEDGE VALIDITY OF THIS CLAIM, IN PRINCIPLE, AND TO NEGOTIATE A ONE-TIME COMPENSATION PAYMENT UP TO A MAXIMUM OF \$200,000. WE HOPE TO SECURE AGREEMENT ON FACILITY RENT BELOW MAXIMUM ANNUAL FACILITY RENTAL AUTHORIZATION (\$770,000). IF SUCCESSFUL, WE COULD PROVIDE AIRPORT CONTRIBUTION PAYMENT FROM DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AGREED RENTAL AND MAXIMUM FACILITY RENTAL AUTHORIZATION. ANTICIPATING WORST CASE SCENARIO, HOWEVER, REQUEST AUTHORITY (B) TO AGREE TO MAXIMUM OF \$200,000 COMPENSATORY PAYMENT OVER AND ABOVE THE AUTHORIZED MAXIMUM FACILITY RENTAL OFFER OF \$770,000 PER ANNUM.

4. FURTHER REQUEST AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE GENERAL TERMS OF A SUBSIDIARY AGREEMENT ON FUTURE "CONTRIBUTIONS" FOR USE OF GRANTLEY ADAMS INTERNATIONAL AIRFIELD, BASED ON PERCENT-OF-USE PRINCIPLE SIMILAR TO US-ANTIGUAN AGREEMENT OF APRIL 1, 1966, AND LIMITING US ANNUAL PAYMENT TO NO MORE THAN AMOUNT OTHERWISE PAYABLE IF US FLIGHTS WERE CHARGED PREVAILING COMMERCIAL LANDING FEES.

5. REQUEST REPLY BY NOON FRIDAY 13 MAY 1977.  
SIMMS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CLAIMS, COMPENSATION, NEGOTIATIONS, MILITARY BASES, AIRPORT FEES, MILITARY AGREEMENTS  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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